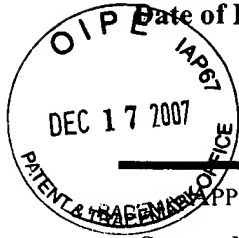


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Date of Deposit: December 17, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 27353-501 UTIL



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Blackburn et al.

CONFIRMATION NUMBER : 4288

SERIAL NUMBER : 09/967,321

EXAMINER : Ann Y. Lam

FILING DATE : 10/01/2001

ART UNIT : 1641

FOR : METHODS

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a three (3)-month extension of time to respond to the Non-Final Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, a Response is due on or before December 17, 2007. A check in the amount of \$525.00 in payment of the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3), for a small entity, is enclosed herewith.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. **50-0311**, Reference No. **27373-501 UTIL**, Customer No. **35437**. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 17, 2007

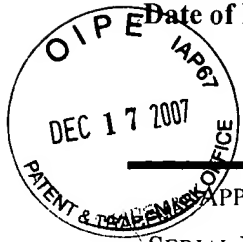
Michelle Iwamoto

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